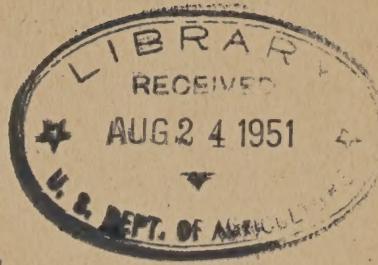


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 Extension Service  
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## POINT 4 --- OPPORTUNITY FOR AMERICANS \*

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It is sometimes hard for us Americans to realize that in other parts of what we call the "free world" there are more than a billion hungry people.

These people are determined to win freedom from hunger for themselves, and the Point 4 Program is ready to help them do it. We know from experience that it can be done. Already, in places like India, Liberia, and Latin America, Point 4 has demonstrated that people can grow more food by adopting a few simple modern practices --- by using improved seed, fertilizer, and inexpensive farm tools.

At the very moment when we are getting ready to send huge shiploads of grain to India, to relieve real starvation, at this moment, our Point 4 technician in India, Horace Holmes, reports that farmers with whom he is working have doubled their wheat and potato yield by means of the simple methods he has been demonstrating to them in the past 3 years. Note, he used the demonstration method. He didn't preach, or even tell them what to do. He tried out certain practices. The farmers saw the results, liked and copied them. That's Point 4 in a nutshell.

Neither the Indians, nor any other people want to accept relief. They want to be self-supporting as we want to. Our aim, in Point 4, is to help them become self-supporting, which is what they want to do.

We're not selling the American way of life, or any other way. We are sharing our knowledge and skills with others on a basis of equality.

I remember a little parable that Secretary Brannan once used to illustrate Point 4. He said "If you have an apple, and I have an apple, and we exchange apples, then each of us still has one apple. But if you have an idea, and I have an idea, and we exchange ideas, then each of us has two ideas."

Well, as you probably know, the 4-H idea is spreading around the world. And in the places where Point 4 is working, it is one of our strongest allies. The reason is that wherever you want to start the wheels of progress turning, you need the young people on your side. Wherever I travel, in this country and abroad, I find young people on the side of Point 4 and on the side of progress. They understand what it's all about and they want to get into it. So we look to the 4-H movement everywhere to provide recruits for Point 4. In Costa Rica, for example, they call it 4-S: "saber, salud, sentimiento and servicio" which is Spanish for your own slogan. I learned the other day that on the little Island of Ceylon, now an independent dominion, there are 125 versions of 4-H, called Young Farmers Clubs.

\*Excerpts from remarks before the National 4-H Club Camp, June 19, 1951, Washington, D. C.

Perhaps some of you will some day decide to go into Point 4 work. I can think of no greater opportunity to fight for peace and freedom.

President Truman said that "the only kind of war we seek is the good old fight against man's ancient enemies — poverty, disease, hunger and illiteracy."

Point 4 is up to its ears in that "good old fight." To all of you 4-H boys and girls, I can honestly say "come on in. The water's fine."